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ASIA, THE PACIFIC,  
CENTRAL ASIA, AND NONPROLIFERATION

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4611**

April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

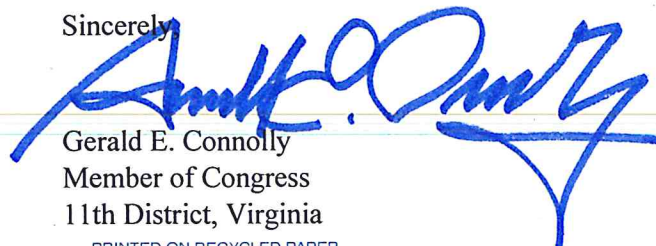
I write to respectfully request \$2,138,315 in fiscal year 2023 funding for the Community Project, Investing in our Youth: Career Readiness and Job Training.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Fairfax County Government, located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

This funding will enable Fairfax County, through the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), to create neighborhood job and entrepreneurship technology and research centers for teens and young adults at the County's community centers, teen centers, and Neighborhood Initiative Sites. These centers would provide teens and young adults with career readiness skills, job training, and leadership programs. The project will provide career exploration, job skill training, professional certifications, and access to an increased range of technology and non-traditional careers and in-demand programs, as well as training programs to underserved communities in Fairfax County that have been affected by generational poverty exacerbated by the pandemic. In partnership with the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court (JDRDC), the County will provide enhanced workforce development services to youth who have been mandated by the courts to pay restitution, generally for offenses such as shoplifting and destruction of property. Often, these youth have never been employed and do not have the skills needed to make themselves employable. Without these skills, they remain unemployed and unable to earn income and then default on their judgements. Consequently, their time involved with the juvenile justice system is extended, often with additional judgements filed against them. This program will also strategically integrate social innovation programs that support inclusive prosperity for youth through economic mobility strategies, leadership, civic engagement, mental health, and mentoring, with the goal of interrupting the cycle of generational poverty by prioritizing economic mobility and inclusive prosperity for all. This program will focus on a youth continuum of services that increases their ability to create equitable pathways to thrive and be successful. Life circumstances, such as where someone lives or their household income level, can disrupt or limit youths' ability to explore and pursue different careers.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress  
11th District, Virginia

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